



No. 1,156 London, Aug. 22, 1958. 6d. US Air Express Edition 10 cents

'Release these prisoners' appeal to de Gaulle

From a Special Correspondent

"THE authors and signatories of the present letter are attempting something very difficult: to hasten the day when France, like many other countries, will have legislation for conscientious objection on its statute books."

This is the opening of a letter which has been sent to General de Gaulle by several prominent Frenchmen. Among the signatories of the letter are André Breton, Bernard Buffet, Albert Camus, Jean Cocteau, Jean Giono, Lanza Del Vasto and L'abbé Pierre.

Albert Camus, writer and winner of the Nobel prize for literature is, like Cocteau, the playwright, poet and novelist, a well-known and respected figure inside and outside his own country. The Abbé Pierre's work for the Paris destitute has long since made him a legendary figure.

Long an advocate of non-violence he has this in common with Lanza del Vasto, an Italian resident in France, who has twice led non-violent protest demonstrations into the French atomic plant at Marcoule.

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H-TESTS: THE NEW IMPERIALISM

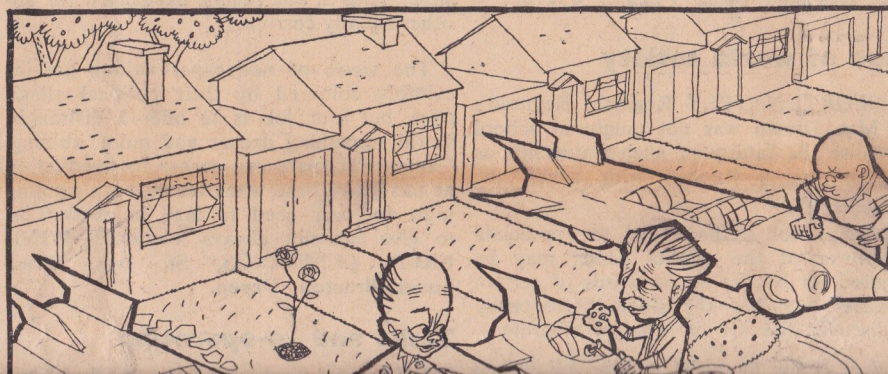
An Editorial

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION, ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY, TO RESUME NUCLEAR TESTS IS PROFOUNDLY IRRESPONSIBLE.

1. It reveals that the Government has taken no notice of the UN report on radiation effects which was issued only a week before the announcement. The reactions of the Asian countries must be extremely hostile, in view of the report's remarks on the greater vulnerability of the rice-eating populations.
2. It will only encourage the Governments of France, Western Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, and possibly, China to produce their own "big bangs."
3. It occurs at a time when the resignation of Dr. Edward Teller, the American scientist most identified with the all-out nuclear deterrent theory, from the general advisory committee of the Atomic Energy Commission suggests that there may be disagreements over the continuation of tests among the American policy makers.

Prestige seems to be the only reason for the decision to continue the tests. Mr. Macmillan's desire to "cut a dash" in world politics may win him temporary popularity in Britain, just as his concern for "Summit" talks has. But it will soon be apparent that continued weapon testing and Summit talks are contradictory aims. Every test makes the possibility of successful Summit talks more remote. And every Western test gives the Russians a propaganda victory which lessens their need for effective negotiations.

The British Press was generally doubtful about the need to continue testing at the present time. The Daily Herald wrote:



and L'abbé Pierre.

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Buffet is one of the best known of the younger French painters, Breton a surrealist writer and critic, and Giono a novelist.

"More than 100 conscientious objectors are imprisoned in France at present," continues the letter. "Some of them have spent five, seven, eight and even ten years in prison. These 100 men are transgressors in the eyes of the law and they realise it.

"They are so well aware of it that, giving an example of dignity touching grandeur, they submit to their punishment without complaint or recrimination."

"However—if the judge who applies the law can no more escape it than those who submit to it—the government can modify it and before modifying can mitigate its effects.

Repression has failed

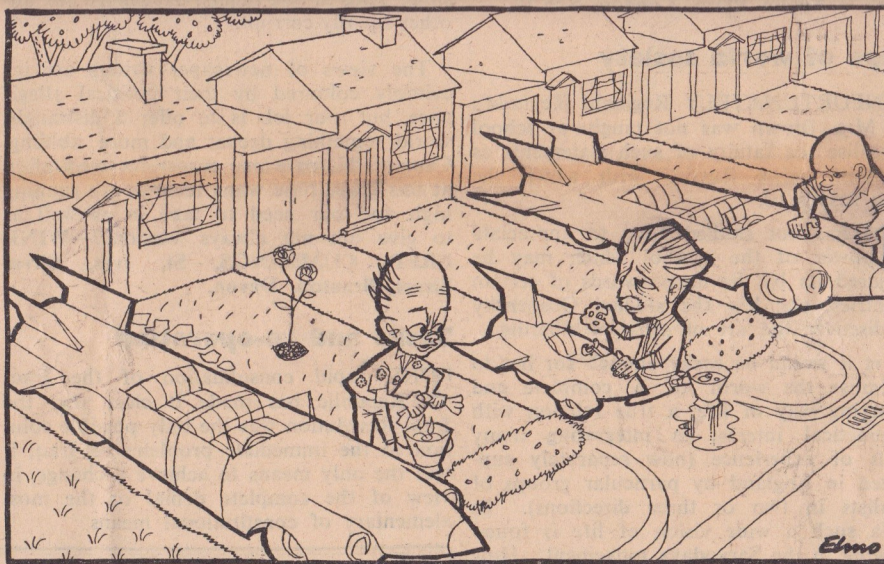
"That is why we beseech you, M. le Président, to use the powers which are in your hands to grant the immediate release of all conscientious objectors who have served five years in prison.

"... It seems impossible that these young prisoners should continue to be treated as cowards and criminals. They are, on the contrary, intrepid souls, idealists and good people.

They are intrepid to brave prison without flinching and without murmur; idealists, because only a man who places the ideal he supports above everything else could have the necessary virtue for such abnegation; good people, because it is on account of their hatred of war and love of all that they accept this sacrifice.

"Repression has failed and the time has come to recognise it."

The letter concludes, "You will thus liberate, M. le Président, Edmond Schaguéné and his comrades. You will free Schaguéné, whose martyrdom has lasted ten years, a unique case in the whole world and a record of which France cannot be proud."



Keeping up with the Joneses.

Non-violent resistance begins at missile base

"I HAVE become convinced that direct action is the only way to reach the minds of men who have been morally benumbed by too many years of propaganda, fear and horror."

This extract from a statement by Kenneth Calkins marked the beginning of non-violent resistance last Monday at the American inter-continental ballistic missile base under construction near Cheyenne, Wyoming.

"With Gandhi, I believe that such an act, undertaken in the proper attitude and manner, releases a moral force capable of touching the hearts of men more effectively than any other means," adds the statement.

Kenneth and Ellanor Calkins—two of a number of picketers at the base—were dragged from the construction site after entering with leaflets which urged the workers to leave their jobs. Air police did not intervene as the couple were hauled off the road and kicked by workers while trying to block equipment.

Both the Calkins planned to return to the site on Tuesday morning.

The decision to take direct action had only been taken after a programme of other activity to rouse the conscience of the people of Cheyenne had failed.

Intensive peace education work had begun there two months ago. Leaflet distribution totalling 5,000 had produced prac-

tically no response. An attempt to interest local citizens in a petition to be sponsored by them "which did not attempt to pass judgment on American foreign policy and argument favouring security through missile bases, but said only that such bases should not be built near civilian population centres" had failed.

Opinion poll

A meeting in connection with this activity is reported on page three.

Typical of the community and personal attitude of the people of Cheyenne was the remark: "We're all going to be blown up anyway. What difference does a missile base make?"

Visitors, participants and helpful counsel have come from all over America to assist the group.

A public opinion poll taken in Cheyenne showed that while only 15 per cent opposed construction of the base now, an additional 15 per cent had been opposed when the base was first announced and had become adjusted to the idea as time went on and no alternative was presented.

● ON BACK PAGE

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The British Press was generally doubtful about the need to continue testing at the present time. The Daily Herald wrote: "The British Government deals world hopes a cruel blow by deciding to resume nuclear explosions at Christmas Island. . . Unless British public opinion destroys this misguided man's (Macmillan's) obstructionism, he will kill hopes of stopping the H-bomb race before it spreads so widely that it become unstoppable."

The Daily Telegraph commented:

"The Ministry of Defence must surely know that all sections of public opinion are profoundly disturbed by H-bomb testing

'Indirect aggression'

The Manchester Guardian said: "The Government has committed a psychological blunder in choosing this of all moments to announce the resumption of nuclear tests; it is, after all, just a week since the United Nations report on the effects of radiation was published."

The Manchester Guardian continued, however: "... No one but a pacifist can logically oppose tests of every kind, under all circumstances. . . For the rest of us, tests under some circumstances might be worth while—but only if the dangers they entail were offset by a considerable advantage."

This attitude and the Government's decision are the early signs of a new imperialism.

In the name of "Western values" the H-bomb Powers are going to determine by their tests the health and future of millions of people who have no say in their policies and who may have a very different attitude to Russia. "Indirect aggression" better describes this policy than it describes what has happened in the Middle East recently.

There are certainly many people in Britain who join with pacifists in condemning all tests in all circumstances, and who would oppose this new-style imperialism just as strongly as they have opposed the old.

What you say about Mrs. Brown

The activists' approach

REGINALD REYNOLDS' article "The Map of Mrs. Brown" should stimulate all three groups of pacifists into reconsidering their position.

Nevertheless his article over-simplifies both the problems facing the Group Three activists, and their attitude to these problems. The activists do not claim to have the answer to the problem of war, nor to the more immediate problem of achieving nuclear disarmament. They are merely experimenting in one particular field, that of using non-violent techniques against the nuclear weapons programme of this country.

They hope their actions will be one means of "communicating" with Mrs. Brown on a deeper level than intellectual argument. They also hope that if non-violent techniques prove to be effective and are adopted by sufficient numbers they will have a practical effect, and also influence the Government. It is yet to be seen whether the experiment will work.

Reg suggests making a map of Mrs. Brown. A psychological survey would doubtless be valuable. But surely the "blockage" in the minds of Mr. and Mrs. Brown springs from a multiplicity of causes, with their origins in the ills of society. Group Two wish to cure. Besides, different Mr. and Mrs. Browns will be vulnerable in different ways, depending on their psychological make-up, degree of intellectual sophistication and social background.

Nor is Mrs. Brown, though important, the only person to be influenced. It seems logical to approach on the one hand the political parties and trade unions, and on the other the individuals most directly concerned with the nuclear weapons programme. By influencing either of these groups one would *ipso facto* influence public opinion in general, and more effectively than by concentrating solely on Mrs. Brown, who has less immediate control over the nuclear weapons programme.

The activists are picketing Aldermaston because appealing to the conscience of the individual is a basic aspect of a "non-violent philosophy" and they believe they may contribute most to the overall campaign in this sphere. The analogy with the hangman is misleading. The hangman cannot escape knowing what his job means in

Since expectation of that kind of mass conversion has never been one of my illusions, I am wondering whether he is not mistaken in looking upon the conversion of "Mrs. Brown" as a pursuit of paramount importance.

Reforms of the past would show, I think, that victory was achieved without the conversion of "Mrs. Brown"; she had no use, for instance, for the Votes for Women campaign, and probably still says, as she said then: "I've no head for politics; I leave all that to my Jim."

I agree entirely that salesmen should not spend time and energy on the kind of advertisement that has no effect, but I have found that though my kind does not affect "Mrs. Brown" much, it does affect the person whom, for lack of a better phrase, I would call a "thinking" person, i.e., a person with a mind open to conviction. Let us call her Mrs. O. M. (she deserves that honour anyway!)

She hears what is said and reads for herself instead of listening to and viewing Government propaganda all the time.

I am entirely in agreement with Reginald Reynolds when he declares against hurrying

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

up a cul-de-sac, but the barrier to Mrs. Brown's psychology is the equivalent of a cul-de-sac, whereas Mrs. O. M. can be reached here and now.

Perhaps some of us could meet together to survey the ground for a new map. Anyway, thank you, R. R.—SYBIL MORRISON, 6 Apollo Place, London, S.W.10.

Hope of world society

UNFORTUNATELY Reginald Reynold's Mrs. Brown was not taught at school to realise the fatuity of such statements as "Britain warns Russia," with which the Press assails us.

She has not studied Jung to appreciate the power of the symbol which may be conjured up by the magic words of certain countries, nor has she studied Ouspensky to discover the art of self-remembering.

Yet it would be easier enough for her to

The revolution in Iraq

Understandable action?

SYBIL MORRISON (PN, July 25) was right to be shocked at the Observer's comment on the Iraqi revolution. I felt equally shocked when I read in Peace News that Dr. Donald Soper had said "that as a pacifist he took a moral objection to violence and deplored brutal actions, but in the circumstances of Western-supported corrupt regimes such action was very understandable." Understandable? Isn't it ourselves we need to understand? There is no such thing as Left Wing Pacifism any more than Right or Left Wing Christianity. There is Pacifism and Christianity and we are free to believe in either or both. Pacifists believe that violence is wrong, but when we set ourselves up as judges of which murders are the more understandable we are on dangerous ground.

It is reported that the Iraqi Royal Family, including Princess Abdiya and her two little children (aged six and eight) and their grandmother, were ordered out of their home at the point of a gun, then made to stand together under a tree in their own garden and a machine gun turned on them

until they all fell dead. Not content with that massacre they threw the body of Abdul Illah to the mob to hang up in the street. Pictures showed that the Prince's feet had been cut off and that Premier Nuri's body was battered beyond recognition. "It lasted only 30 minutes," said the officer responsible! Thus is one regime exchanged for another equally corrupt.

The views of newspaper writers are inevitably coloured by their political allegiance, but our job is to offer a distraught world something deeper and more abiding. Cannot PN spare one corner for meditation at this grave time when feelings are running high and our need to take in as well as to give out not always obvious?—WINFRED CUMMINGS, St. Ives, Silver Street, Brauton, Devon.

Tasks and co-operation

THE rapid consolidation of the Iraqi

The "brutality" of the revolution has been much commented upon. Emphasis on this point only serves to divert attention from the essential features of the revolution, which does not differ by its secondary outcomes from many revolutions in the history of Europe—the English and the French revolutions, to mention a few.

The tasks facing the republic are tremendous. It has only just started on its plans for real development, reform and prosperity. What it needs most of all is peace and friendship with all countries.

We, who have studied and lived in this country, feel that it is essential for both Britain and Iraq to deal and trade on an equilateral basis and friendliness. In the tasks facing us we need co-operation with all countries, especially in the fields of experts, technology, and development. Today the world is too small for any one country to stand alone.—A. K. BAYATI (President), Iraqi Students Society in the UK, 37, King Street, London, W.C.2.

Edmund Schaguene

CAN we do nothing to express our concern at the fate of Edmund Schaguéné, the French conscientious objector, who after 10 years in prison has just been sentenced again?

I have written to the French Embassy contrasting this inhumanity to one who has done no one any harm, with the reputation for personal liberty and a civilised attitude to life which France has—at least until the Algerian tortures—enjoyed. Perhaps if we all expressed our views in this way it would have some effect. Have PN readers any other ideas?

Having served a small sentence for my beliefs I can understand something of the erosion of the spirit which such prolonged imprisonment can bring.—RODERICK C. OGLEY (prospective Labour candidate for Sevenoaks), 341 Lordship Lane, London, S.E.22.

THE CHOICE

THE GANDHIAN INFLUENCE in some way still speaks to the conscience of the world as nations grapple with international problems. If we fail, on an international scale, to follow the Gandhian principle of non-violence, we may end up by

the other the individuals most directly concerned with the nuclear weapons programme.. By influencing either of these groups one would *ipso facto* influence public opinion in general, and more effectively than by concentrating solely on Mrs. Brown, who has less immediate control over the nuclear weapons programme.

The activists are picketing Aldermaston because appealing to the conscience of the individual is a basic aspect of a "non-violent philosophy" and they believe they may contribute most to the overall campaign in this sphere. The analogy with the hangman is misleading. The hangman cannot escape knowing what his job means in terms of human suffering. The Aldermaston worker can conveniently forget. The picketers are there to remind him, and to make him face squarely the moral issues involved. He is only too happy to shift responsibility on to society or the Government. The picket is intended to make "the world crisis become a personal crisis" for him.—**APRIL CARTER, London, S.W.4.**

Why she doesn't buy?

CONGRATULATIONS to Reginald Reynolds on his fine article, and to PN for printing it. I for one share his dissatisfaction with the three dominant groups in our movement to which he refers.

Like Reg., I cannot suggest what his proposed socio-psychological survey would reveal about Mrs. Brown, and why she remains uninspired by the pacifism we want so badly to sell her.

Do you suppose that Mrs. Brown is reluctant to try a hair restorer being sold by bald-headed salesmen?—**ARLO TATUM, 33 Devonshire Road, Palmers Green, London, N.13.**

Mass conversion

ALL pacifists will, I am sure, be grateful to Reginald Reynolds for thinking aloud in such a lucid and helpful way.

I suspect that he would place me in the "Pacifist Old Guard" group, but I'm not sure that it can be assumed that all propagandist activities are a "dismal failure," unless it is also to be assumed that the aim is to convert "the masses" to belief in abolishing war.

"I renounce war and I will never support or sanction another"

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to PPU Headquarters

DICK SHEPPARD HOUSE
6, Endsleigh Street London, W.C.1

Hope of world society

UNFORTUNATELY Reginald Reynold's Mrs. Brown was not taught at school to realise the fatuity of such statements as "Britain warns Russia," with which the Press assails us.

She has not studied Jung to appreciate the power of the symbol which may be conjured up by the magic words of certain countries, nor has she studied Ouspensky to discover the art of self-remembering.

Yet it would be easier enough for her to recognise the worth of a complete and satisfying way of life, a true religion with a practical interest in integrating many fields of experience (now separately supported in England by particular groups of idealists in two or three directions). In India such a wide vision of life is found growing in the Sarvodaya movement. How can Mrs. Brown receive its inspiration? Already, however, the leaven is fermenting and soon, maybe, she will be thinking of Mr. Macmillan and Mr. Khrushchov as two of her quarreling sons.

With the death blast of the bomb comes the hope of the world society which Vinoba and others preach.—**JEFFREY BOND, 8 Fairhaven Road, Bristol 6.**

About Mrs. Brown

AS Mrs. Brown has brought me the biggest mail I have ever received in response to anything of mine ever published, it is impossible to reply to correspondents individually. May I acknowledge this flood of letters through PN?

They have been without exception, friendly; and, on the whole, encouraging. The main doubt expressed is one I share. It amounts to this: among all the thousands of sociologists, social psychologists, etc., who might help, are there even three or four who care enough to give time and thought to the problem? And when I say *give* I mean *give*. Do they, in fact, care as much as the people who sell Peace News on street corners and all the other "concerned" people who give voluntary service as a matter of course?

I don't know. I am making enquiries, but am fully aware that most intelligent people (in every branch of human knowledge) are members, themselves, of Mrs. Brown's family. Apathy is not the monopoly of the ignorant.—**REGINALD REYNOLDS, 20 Jubilee Place, London, S.W.3.**

able: Thus is one regime exchanged for another equally corrupt.

The views of newspaper writers are inevitably coloured by their political allegiance, but our job is to offer a distraught world something deeper and more abiding. Cannot PN spare one corner for meditation at this grave time when feelings are running high and our need to take in as well as to give out not always obvious?—**WINIFRED CUMMINGS, St. Ives, Silver Street, Brauton, Devon.**

Tasks and co-operation

THE rapid consolidation of the Iraqi Republic has made it clear that the Iraqi Revolution was the only possible solution to the immediate problems of Iraq; it was the only means to achieve a change, in view of the complete denial of the most elementary of constitutional means.

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THE CHOICE

THE GANDHIAN INFLUENCE in some way still speaks to the conscience of the world as nations grapple with international problems. If we fail, on an international scale, to follow the Gandhian principle of non-violence, we may end up by destroying ourselves through the misuse of our own instruments.

The choice is no longer between violence and non-violence. It is now either non-violence or non-existence.—*Martin Luther King in the Indian magazine "Sarvodaya."*

RELIGIOUS FLASHPOINT

"WHY PACIFISTS SHOULD ASSIST THE CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT"

Your group and your friends should discuss this most controversial pamphlet, issued by the Movement for a Pacifist Church of Christ.

Write for a free copy to:

Wallace Hancock, 8 Barclay Oval, Woodford Wells, Essex.

LONDON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD. NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

During the recognised holiday months in Great Britain it is as well that members of the London Co-operative Society should be aware of the National Membership Scheme that is in operation throughout the country. In almost every town throughout Great Britain there is a Co-operative Society and the National Membership Scheme enables visiting members to receive dividend on purchases at most of them.

Wherever our members go, seaside, town or country, the L.C.S. share number should be quoted with the prefix "L." The local Society then arrange for such purchases to be transferred to the London Society, and the current rate of Dividend of your Society will be paid.

Quakers in silent march to White House

MEMBERS of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) from throughout the country, meeting in conference in Washington, DC, called "for immediate cessation of tests of nuclear weapons" by the United States Government.

Brought together by the Peace and Social Order Committee of Friends General Conference, the Friends assert in an approved statement, "we are uneasy because governments continue nuclear weapons testing which is bringing disease and death to mankind. We question the right of our Government or of any government to inflict the consequences of radio-active fall-out upon other peoples, and to prejudice the future of children yet unborn."

The group, which met in Washington from August 2-8 sought to implement its concerns during its time in the city. Friends from as far distant as Missouri and Texas called upon members of Congress and Government officials to discuss these issues.

DAY AND NIGHT VIGIL

On the Sunday night some 100 Friends walked in a group by twos in silence from the Friends Meeting House on Florida Avenue to the White House to present a letter at the White House gate requesting an appointment with President Eisenhower at his convenience during the time of the week-long meeting. The letter to the President stated the desire of the group to have a delegation speak with him on three issues: nuclear weapons testing, United States policy in the Middle East, and the spirit in which negotiations are undertaken.

In an observance of the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima, August 6, 1945, a delegation of Friends carried to the Ambassador from Japan, Koichiro Asaki, a bouquet of flowers and a letter expressing grievance for the tragic destruction of Hiroshima and "our responsibility as Americans for its occurrence."

The letter said: "On this thirteenth anniversary we rededicate ourselves, in fellowship with the people of Japan, to the task of insuring that such massive destruction will never recur." Friends kept a twenty-four hour vigil from midnight to midnight

Italy gags Dolci helper

SURVEY REVEALS VILLAGE CONDITIONS

THE Italian authorities refused to allow a Swedish economist to speak on July 20 in the small farming community of Roccamena.

The economist, Gunnar Adler-Karlsson, was invited by friends to talk on "Some Aspects of Social Life in Sweden," following the projection of some United States Information Service agricultural films.

While gathering data for his doctor's dissertation, Mr. Adler-Karlsson has also been conducting a survey for Danilo Dolci on the economic and social conditions in Roccamena.

Police explanation

At first the authorities claimed that this was not the moment for such a talk because of the "international tension in the Middle East"; however, the police commissioner in Palermo later explained that "being a tourist, Mr. Adler-Karlsson did not have the right to address either public or private meetings, regardless of the subject matter. A tourist," according to this police official, "many only be a tourist, may not study or participate in any other cultural activity whatsoever without special permission."

Mr. Adler-Karlsson's survey reveals that the men in the Roccamena area work an average of 120 days a year, 78 per cent of the population is in debt, meat is eaten only "several" time a year, bread and spaghetti are the usual nourishments of grown-ups as well as children, 4-5 people usually share a room, and one-third of those over ten

Next Nobel prize to go to Ude?

DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER is supporting the nomination of Prof. Ude, leading Austrian Catholic, for the Nobel Peace Prize.

This was announced in Vienna recently by the chairman of the "Albert Schweitzer Community" at the close of a meeting at which Prof. Ude was the speaker.

The 84-year-old professor of theology was a conscientious objector in World War I and was imprisoned by the Nazis in World War II.

He told a gathering of 300 members of the Schweitzer Community on June 25: The methods of militarism stand condemned as

years of age never went to school for as much as a year.

Danilo Dolci is using the money he got from the Lenin prize award to set up pilot zones in Western Sicily.

Agricultural experts will have the job of solving the difficulties of each zone, especially the unemployment problem. The Swedish, Norwegian, British and Swiss groups will finance or send at least one technician to assist in the scheme.

Nagasaki recalled at missile base

By Arthur Springer

ON August 9, 1958, thirteenth anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki, 14 individuals from five states held a seven-hour meeting for meditation and prayer near the inter-Continental missile site now under construction north of Cheyenne, Wyoming. Three Cheyenne citizens joined the group, which met from noon till sundown.

Organisers of the meeting were Theodore Olson and Arthur Springer, who have been in Cheyenne since mid-June carrying on an educational campaign against missile base construction (PN, August 8). They said the purpose of the meeting was "to achieve insight into our relationship to events 13 years ago and to what is happening in Cheyenne now."

ARMY VETERANS JOIN IN

Four local residents who had heard about the meeting joined for short periods. Among them were two army veterans who had visited Nagasaki shortly after the Japanese surrender. One of them told the group: "The city looked as if it had been swept clean with a giant broom." He went on to say that most American military leaders had known the Japanese were about to surrender and were opposed to using the atomic bomb. "My talks with Japanese people also indicated they were ready to surrender. Using atomic bombs was unnecessary," he said.

Participants included Brad Little,...

THEIR HOLIDAY...

The P.N. Fund

IT'S holiday time. Perhaps you are taking out your yacht for a Mediterranean cruise, or basking in the sunshine of Palm Beach? Or perhaps the English summer has attractions for you? There are shelters on rain-washed promenades in

Bournemouth and Torquay.

But for most of our fellow men there are no holidays; only further days of subsistence or worse. For military reasons it is not "expedient" to aid these neighbours. Man's resources and ingenuity are priorities for war preparations.

The world is tottering along beneath a burden of armaments so gigantic that the human mind cannot comprehend it. In our own small way, we at PN office also have a special burden to bear these weeks, as our staff members and voluntary workers in turn take a rest and prepare themselves for further labours.

If your burden is lighter than that of others, remember PN in these decisive days.

We count every penny. Every penny counts.

Assistant Editor.

Contributions since Aug. 8: £39 14s. 6d.

Contributions since Feb. 1, 1958: £906 14s. 5d.

Still needed: £1,093 before Feb. 1, 1959.

Anonymous contributions gratefully acknowledged: F.G.J., 10s; Satyagratic, 7s. 6d.; Anon., Upminster, 10s.; Anon., Staines, 4s. 6d.

Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace News Ltd., and address them to Lady Clare Annesley, Joint Treasurer, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.A.

Leading scientists on nuclear peril

"SCIENTISTS on Trial" is the theme of a mass meeting in London on Monday, September 22. Organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the gathering in the Central Hall will be addressed by an international platform of leading scientists brought over from Vienna, where they will have been discussing the nuclear peril at the third "Pugwash" conference. The campaign stresses that this meeting will be "primarily for the unconverted." It takes the place of the mass meeting at Harringay arena, which will now be held on a Sunday

issues: nuclear weapons testing, United States policy in the Middle East, and the spirit in which negotiations are undertaken.

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The letter said: "On this thirteenth anniversary we rededicate ourselves, in fellowship with the people of Japan, to the task of insuring that such massive destruction will never recur." Friends kept a twenty-four hour vigil from midnight to midnight on Wednesday commemorating Hiroshima Day.

Groups of Friends walked through neighbourhoods in the vicinity of the Florida Avenue Meeting House, knocking on doors and talking with citizens about the observance of Hiroshima Day and the necessity of ending nuclear bomb tests and bringing about an enforceable system of disarmament.

Brooklyn tea party

From a Special Correspondent

A FORTNIGHT ago David McReynolds, Socialist candidate for Congress in Lower Manhattan, led more than thirty "Indians" in a "Brooklyn Tea Party." The group was protesting about a cargo of radio-active tea, currently spread out on a Brooklyn pier awaiting inspection by the Food and Drug Administration.

Underneath their war-paint the Indians were actually high school and college youths from the New York area. They picketed quietly with signs that read "no radiation without representation." Other signs called for an end to H-bomb testing.

"World peace and social justice can't be separated from each other," explained candidate McReynolds. "If the money spent on war were spent on welfare we could create a paradise in this land. But it will continue to be spent on war as long as the world is divided into armed camps. Only democratic socialism offers a peaceful alternative to the military-minded policies of both the Soviet and the American blocs."

At the water's edge, as a symbolic gesture, the "Indians" threw teabags into the harbour.

to go to Ude?

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The 84-year-old professor of theology was a conscientious objector in World War I and was imprisoned by the Nazis in World War II.

He told a gathering of 300 members of the Schweitzer Community on June 25: The methods of militarism stand condemned as sin. We have to strive for the change of both Capitalism and Communism in a non-violent way. In an atomic war death is the only victor.

Inspired by the photograph in Peace News of the ketch Golden Rule, the crew of which attempted to get to Eniwetok to protest against American nuclear weapon tests, a South Australian Quaker, Mary P. Harris, designed this card, which is being widely distributed in Australia.

A small supply is available in England and may be obtained from Peace News at 1s. 3d. for half a dozen, post free.

ARMY VETERANS JOIN IN

Four local residents who had heard about the meeting joined for short periods. Among them were two army veterans who had visited Nagasaki shortly after the Japanese surrender. One of them told the group: "The city looked as if it had been swept clean with a giant broom." He went on to say that most American military leaders had known the Japanese were about to surrender and were opposed to using the atomic bomb. "My talks with Japanese people also indicated they were ready to surrender. Using atomic bombs was unnecessary," he said.

Participants included Brad Lyttle, associate peace secretary, Chicago office of the American Friends Service Committee, a farmer, students, school teachers and housewives.

Leading scientists on nuclear peril

"SCIENTISTS on Trial" is the theme of a mass meeting in London on Monday, September 22. Organised by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the gathering in the Central Hall will be addressed by an international platform of leading scientists brought over from Vienna, where they will have been discussing the nuclear peril at the third "Pugwash" conference. The campaign stresses that this meeting will be "primarily for the unconverted." It takes the place of the mass meeting at Harringay arena, which will now be held on a Sunday in late October.

Prof. Dame Kathleen Lonsdale will be attending the Vienna Conference.

The CND is also planning a National Delegate Conference in the autumn "to review its constitution and strategy."

VICTIMS OF STRONTIUM 90?

THE Bangor, Beaumaris and District Trades Council have submitted information to the Bangor City Council on the effects of Strontium 90.

Discussing the situation in the Bangor area, the Trades Council says, "We do not wish to cause false alarm, but we feel (and Dr. Fraser of the Radium Institute, Liverpool, agrees) that there is sound evidence that an investigation be carried out to ensure that the children in our local hospital who are, it is alleged, suffering from 'an unknown virus,' in their leg bones, are not the victims of Strontium 90 fall-out.

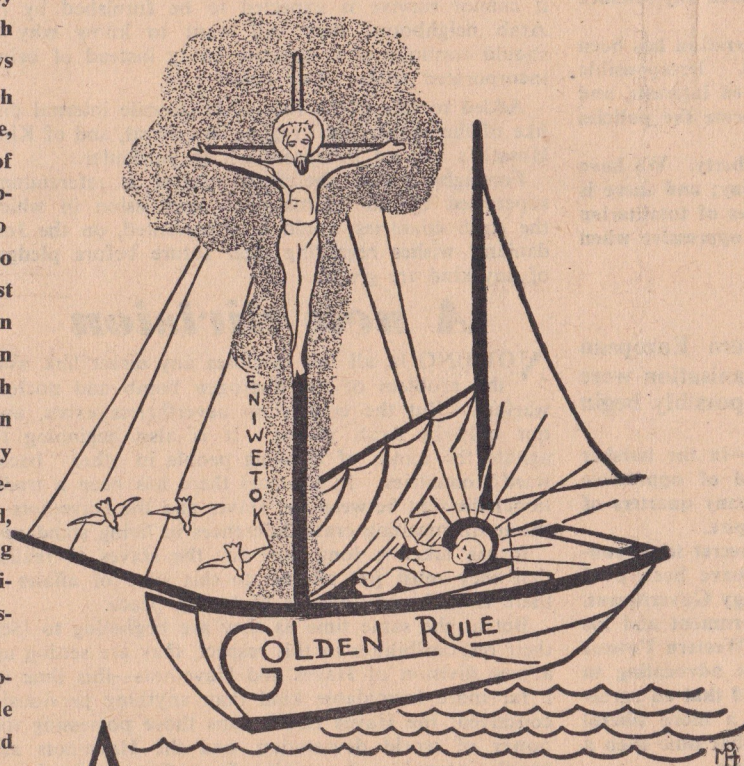
"It is a fact that Strontium 90 seeks major forming bones such as the leg.

"Also, that very many lambs are dying on local farms from an unknown complaint which, attacking them in the knee (similar to the Bangor children), makes them first lame and then die."

"THE YOUNG CRUSADER"

THE first issue of "The Young Crusader," the junior magazine of the Crusade Against all Cruelty to Animals, will appear on World Day for Animals, October 4. It will be edited by Mavis James, former PN staff member.

The theme of the magazine is to emphasise the oneness of life. Contributions are invited, especially from children who actively prevent and stop cruelty, and from biologists who can write factual, crisp, educational articles unsteepped in sentimentality.



All pathways by His feet are worn,
His strong heart stirs the ever-beating sea,
His crown of thorns is twined with every thorn,
His cross is every tree.

Joseph Mary Plunkett

PEACE NEWS

The International Pacifist Weekly

Editorial and Publishing office:

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4

Tel: STAmford Hill 2262

Distribution office for U.S.A.:

20 S. Twelfth Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Registered as a newspaper. Entered as second class matter
Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa.

NEW POLICY NEEDED

"I TAKE WHAT I WANT," Frederick the Great of Prussia is reported to have declared. "I can always find pedants to prove my rights."

Those rulers today who are troubled about the morality of their actions have no difficulty in finding priests as well as pedants to provide justification for their deeds.

Thus General Massu, recently promoted by General de Gaulle, could find a priest to elaborate an argument, for distribution among the troops, to show that the torturing of human beings by other human beings can be quite in harmony with Christianity, provided of course that the tortures are directed to righteous purposes.

Similarly, in a recent symposium on foreign policy issued in the United States, it is a Jesuit professor of theology, Father John Murray, who argues for a US policy to keep Russia engaged "at every point, on all levels of action, by both strategic and tactical moves."

He supports this plea for brinkmanship by claiming that "it would be prudent to create situations of risk for the Soviet Union—situations in which the risk would be too great for it to take." Too great a risk for Russia to face, it should be noted, not too great for the US!

IT IS THIS CALCULATED GAMBLE, ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE PROSPECTIVE ENEMY WILL EXERCISE A HIGHER DEGREE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO HUMANITY THAN THOSE WHO ARE CREATING THE "SITUATIONS OF RISK," THAT IS LIKELY TO PRODUCE A NUCLEAR WAR.

★ ★

FATHER MURRAY'S ARTICLE is in a symposium published by the Fund for the Republic.

The leading contribution, however, is by a military writer, Mr. Walter Millis, who urges a thorough reconsideration by the West of the basis of its foreign policy. His plea is that the US should face the fact that it is confronted with an enduring social revolution "as irreversible as were the French and American revolutions."

It took the USA 16 years—until 1933—before it accorded diplomatic recognition to the fact that there had been a Russian revolution. Because of what Mr. Millis calls "the cruder follies of war psychology" it may take even longer for a similar recognition of the Chinese revolution; and even diplomatic recognition, despite the formal acceptance of the need for co-existence, has

Three surprises

THE UN General Assembly discussions on the Middle East have already produced three surprises:

1. The declaration by Mr. Abdul Monem Rifai, speaking for Jordan, that United Nations measures to ensure the integrity of his country "must not envisage the despatch of United Nations forces or United Nations observers to be stationed on Jordanian territory or to guard Jordan's frontiers."

Considering that it is claimed that the British troops in Jordan are there at the urgent request of King Hussein, what can be the objection to their place being taken by United Nations forces?

The point needs elucidation.

2. Mr. Ahmad Shukhairy's blunt statement for Saudi Arabia that he will vote "for every resolution that calls for immediate evacuation of foreign troops not only from Lebanon and Jordan but from every Arab land," and that his country is opposed to the very existence of Israel.

And while Mr. Shukhairy administered this shock treatment to the West in New York, adding that "the psychoneurotic complex of hating President Nasser should be extracted from Western thinking," Crown Prince Feisal of Saudi Arabia, who is now more powerful than his brother, the King, was flying to Cairo for the reported purpose of conferring with President Nasser on a projected defence alliance between their two countries.

3. The Russians' apparent willingness to accept a compromise resolution which does not differ greatly from the Japanese one vetoed by them in the Security Council a week earlier.

Preserving Jordan

IT is impossible to tell whether this third surprise is due to extra caution induced by the success of the American Nautilus' sub-polar crossing with its far-reaching implications on the military aspect of the world situation, as suggested by certain observers, or to shrewdness in foreseeing the difficulties the West is creating for itself in the near future.

For, whereas the needs of Russian policy are fundamentally satisfied by an increasingly strong, neutral Arab world to keep Turkey, Iran and Pakistan from developing too much active enthusiasm for the West (and possibly even to seduce them away from it), even the Eisenhower proposals are not yet free enough of elements of tutelage and of favouring conditions for which millions of Arabs have no love, to do away with anti-Western feeling.

The most important of the Eisenhower proposals is the declared intention to preserve the independence and integrity of Jordan. But Jordan is neither a racial, national, historical nor even economic expression. It is the artificial projection of a series of political give-

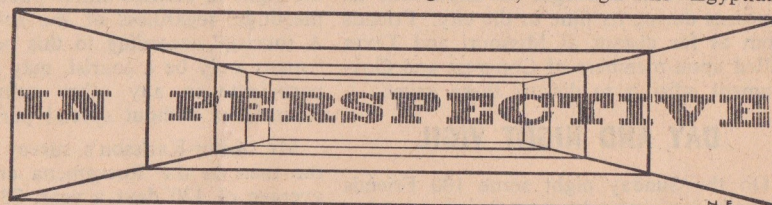
Burying Suez

IN the criminal lunacy of the aggression upon Egypt following the Suez Canal dispute, France (under the Mollet Government, incidentally) was definitely the leading culprit as compared with Britain. It has, however, shown distinctly more verve than Britain in seeking to liquidate the results of its error.

The magnitude of the error, we do well to remember, is indicated by a comparison of the grim forebodings that filled the Press when President Nasser made his brusque gesture of nationalising the Canal with what has actually happened. None of the dire prophecies as to what would happen has been fulfilled, and in fact the Egyptian Government has shown a remarkable readiness to agree upon mutually acceptable terms on the issues that had to come up for settlement.

In April of this year it reached agreement on the indemnification of the holders of shares in the Suez Canal. It has now agreed with General de Gaulle's Foreign Minister, M. Courve de Murville, on outstanding issues, such as restitution or compensation for property confiscated from French nationals, and the provision of facilities for the return to Egypt of those who were expelled.

Payment for the damage done by the French in the course of their part in the invasion of Egypt is provided for in the agreement, although the Egyptians



have acquiesced in formulae that cover up the aggressive character of the action that caused the damage.

The Times puts the amount to be paid over by France to Egypt at £20,000,000.

It is expected that the settlement of all these matters will result in a prompt renewal of diplomatic relations between France and Egypt. We hope it will also soon be followed by a similar diplomatic recognition on the part of Britain.

Crossman's claim

GRANTED the assumptions of present Labour Party policy, Mr. Richard Crossman's claim that it would be better to retain conscription than to be compelled to fight all wars with nuclear weapons is sensible. And he is probably right that a Labour Government could not liquidate all its commitments immediately it came into office.

It is when Mr. Crossman cites the places where a Labour Government might have to use conventional forces that we become suspicious. In his letter to the Manchester Guardian of August 1 he named the Persian Gulf, Central Africa and Singapore as three such places.

These are all places where one might well expect a Conservative Government to have trouble. But we

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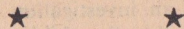
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It took the USA 16 years—until 1933—before it accorded diplomatic recognition to the fact that there had been a Russian revolution. Because of what Mr. Millis calls "the cruder follies of war psychology" it may take even longer for a similar recognition of the Chinese revolution; and even diplomatic recognition, despite the formal acceptance of the need for co-existence, has not led to a genuine acceptance of a continuing peaceful relationship with Russia.

Since the 1955 "Summit" meeting at Geneva, the Western allies have recognised that they can no longer hope for greater measures of freedom for the peoples of Eastern Europe through military pressures and the threat of war—"the creation of situations of risk for the Soviet Union." Events in Hungary ended any reliance on that possibility.

But although the idea of war as a means to liberation has been abandoned, no other policy has replaced it. Irresponsible chauvinists like Father Murray, the Texas moneyed interests, and the China Lobby, can therefore continue to advocate the policies that appeared to them desirable five years ago.

...War psychosis encourages the suppression of liberty. We have seen this in the US; we can see it in France today; and there is every reason to assume that the oppressive regimes of totalitarian Communism stand less chance of becoming more oppressive when a lively fear of war is not present.



IF THE NEED for regarding the Eastern European States as part of the Russian defence organisation were removed, the citizens of these States could possibly begin to aspire to greater freedom.

In the present tension Russia applies to them—in the harsher framework of Leninism-Stalinism—the same kind of oppressive principles that imperial Britain used to apply in many quarters of the world in defence of her interests and her empire.

This is poignantly brought home to us by the secret trials continuing in Hungary. Among those reported to have been tried recently is Istvan Bibó, Minister of State in the Nagy Government.

Between the Russian suppression of that Government and his trial he managed to appeal in an article to the Western Powers to make the kind of approach that we are here advocating to secure a more liberal policy for Hungary. He held that an agreement for a neutralised Hungary could lead to a more liberal political regime, and appeared to believe that at that time such a development might have been acceptable to Russia.

We do not know if he was right.

BUT WITH THE ADMITTED IMPOSSIBILITY OF THE APPLICATION OF THEIR EARLIER POLICIES BASED ON MILITARY THREATS IT IS THE DUTY OF THE WESTERN POWERS TO MAKE ATTEMPTS OF THIS KIND FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLES OF EASTERN EUROPE.

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For, whereas the needs of Russian policy are fundamentally satisfied by an increasingly strong, neutral Arab world to keep Turkey, Iran and Pakistan from developing too much active enthusiasm for the West (and possibly even to seduce them away from it), even the Eisenhower proposals are not yet free enough of elements of tutelage and of favouring conditions for which millions of Arabs have no love, to do away with anti-Western feeling.

The most important of the Eisenhower proposals is the declared intention to preserve the independence and integrity of Jordan. But Jordan is neither a racial, national, historical nor even economic expression. It is the artificial projection of a series of political give-and-takes, a Pygmalion-created thing that has, unlike the subject of the legend, never acquired a life of its own.

As long as it is kept alive by help from the outside it will be hated by an Arab world aiming at unity, as a foreigners' stooge. And if the help without which it cannot survive is expected to be furnished by its Arab neighbours, they will want to know why it should continue as a separate entity instead of being incorporated within their larger unit.

Added to this is the fact of large-scale internal dislike of the monarchical regime in general, and of King Hussein's way of interpreting it in particular.

Foresight would therefore suggest a referendum, supervised by an international commission in which the Arab countries would be represented, on the Jordanians' wishes regarding their future before pledges of any kind are given.

A new division

NOTHING in all this discloses any direct link with the problem of the hydrogen bomb and nuclear warfare. But the connection nevertheless exists, and not only in Arab minds. It is also beginning to agitate the minds of thinking people in other "backward" countries. In the past there has been a traditional division between the Haves and the Have-nots—the terms meaning crass differences in living standards.

It has taken a long time for the Haves to realise that they must put an end to this state of affairs if there is to be any chance of lasting peace.

But at the same time as they are beginning to face their responsibilities in this respect, they are setting up a new division of Haves and Have-nots—this time of a far more formidable kind than anything previously conceived: the Haves now means those possessing the power of world devastation, and the Have-nots are people incapable of escaping from that devastation—the whole of their fate including that of possible descendants depending on the reason or unreason of the "advanced" nations.

The new kind of division makes the former one look trumpery, and there is only one way to end it: the absolute abolition of nuclear weapons.

Crossman's claim

GRANTED the assumptions of present Labour Party policy, Mr. Richard Crossman's claim that it would be better to retain conscription than to be compelled to fight all wars with nuclear weapons is sensible. And he is probably right that a Labour Government could not liquidate all its commitments immediately it came into office.

It is when Mr. Crossman cites the places where a Labour Government might have to use conventional forces that we become suspicious. In his letter to the Manchester Guardian of August 1 he named the Persian Gulf, Central Africa and Singapore as three such places.

These are all places where one might well expect a Conservative Government to have trouble. But we should have thought they would be the first places where a new Labour policy would make radical changes.

Central Africa is a particularly significant example. If Federation is not abandoned or modified in 1960 it is probable that there will be great discontent among the Africans. Does Mr. Crossman mean that a Labour Government, if elected, would continue to impose Federation against the wishes of the vast majority of the Africans and would then use troops to pacify them? Or, perhaps, Mr. Crossman expects to use troops against the white settlers?

So far as we can see, the only other time when the number of troops that conscription makes available would be needed would be for adventures of the Suez and Jordan kind. And both Mr. Crossman and the Labour Party are firmly opposed to adventures of this kind.

Unless Mr. Crossman makes his position clear, to many people it will appear that, under the smoke screen of the fear of nuclear weapons he wants to retain conscription for one of its traditional functions, the repression of the colonies.

Double-edged irony

THE New Statesman recently published a delightful piece of irony by Claud Cockburn in which he argued the strategic and commonsense case for employing torture as "a further deterrent." He shows that, moral and ethical considerations aside, as good a case on its practical merits can be made out for torture as for the H-bomb or any other murderous weapons inseparable from modern warfare.

The irony was doubtless intended for H-bomb supporters, but it cuts most savagely nearer home. For years the New Statesman has fobbed off serious consideration of the pacifist position with just the sort of specious arguments that Mr. Cockburn employs in his article. Indeed, had the article been devoted to a defence of war rather than torture, it would have made an excellent summing up of the New Statesman's position on this matter.

It is not surprising that it was found necessary the following week to assure some troubled readers that the article was not to be taken at its face value.

A warning about an air of patronage

By FENNER BROCKWAY, MP

Chairman, Movement for Colonial Freedom

ONE must reserve an assessment of the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly until definite conclusions are reached, but two immediate comments may be made. The first is a word of warning.

We tend to speak as though United Nations intervention in the internal affairs of the Arab countries were a good thing. Proposals are made for a UN police force, a UN observer corps, UN censorship of broadcasts, UN supervision of elections.

Behind this is the assumption that the Arab nations cannot conduct their own affairs. There is an air of patronage about it all.

United Nations intervention is justified only in three circumstances. It should be at the request of the Arab peoples themselves; to prevent aggression by an external government; or to remove the threat of war. One hopes in time that UN functions will be extended—for example, to maintain human rights—but neither the Communist nor the Colonial Powers are at present prepared to accept this intervention, and we have no right to apply it to the Arab countries until we apply it universally.

UN and China

It may be that some international monitoring of broadcasting may be desirable, but it would have to apply to "The Voice of America" and BBC political services as well as to Cairo and Moscow broadcasts.

On the whole, however, it will probably be better to leave this to the good sense of individual governments. Bans on freedom of speech are always undesirable.

My second comment is also a warning. It is time that the delegates at the United Nations looked over their shoulders to the one-fourth of the world's population who are not represented. The exclusion of the People's Republic of China is a scandal and it is becoming a danger to peace.

The American State Department has just reiterated its opposition.

Why should any government be excluded from the United Nations because Washington does not like it?

For Madagascar, federation even with the accompanying restrictions represents a considerable advance. Four years ago when I visited this vast island (it is as large as France, Belgium and Holland combined), which lies to the south-east of Africa, it was a police State. During my waking hours I was never unaware of detectives.

Price of rejection

A rebellion at the end of the war had been suppressed with appalling severity and Nationalist leaders were serving life sentences. Since then democratic institutions have been extended, but the limited self-government now offered would still be a considerable advance.

In West and Equatorial Africa the limitations of self-government will be resented. The national movements are demanding virtual independence, though they are prepared to accept joint Commissions covering defence, foreign policy and economic development.

General de Gaulle's scheme rejects this aim entirely. He says that if the overseas territories refuse to accept federation on his terms they must face the consequences of independence without any economic aid.

The General will, as I have said, probably get his vote from West and Equatorial Africa as well as from Madagascar, but no one in France should be deluded. This cannot be a lasting solution. There is not a

people on earth who will permanently accept tutelage to a foreign Power. The time will come when the populations of Madagascar and French "Black Africa" will insist on controlling fully both their foreign and internal affairs.

Members of the Chamber of Deputies' Consultative Committee which has been considering the de Gaulle scheme are evidently conscious of this. They have proposed that every five years the overseas territories shall be able to choose a new status, including independence and membership of a "community of free peoples" to which, it is suggested, Tunisia and Morocco should immediately belong. This might be built on the lines of the Commonwealth evolved by Britain and her ex-colonies. It remains doubtful, however, whether de Gaulle will accept this compromise.

Army will 'educate'

The problem of Algeria emphatically remains unsolved.

The voting will take place only in the territory occupied by France, and the army has been instructed not only to control the plebiscite but to "educate" the people on the issues involved.

This will be a caricature of a free election. The fighting will go on. The one solution would be to include Algeria with Tunisia and Morocco in the "community of free peoples" which the consultative committee proposes for independent ex-colonial and ex-protectorate territories.

General de Gaulle's ultimatum of the termination of economic aid to territories which choose independence raises again the fundamental issue which I discussed when the British Government proposed to stop assistance from the Colonial Development Fund to ex-colonies.

World Fund

The imperialist Powers have developed their dependent countries in the interests of the economy not of those territories but of their own economy. They have sought from them raw materials and foodstuffs; they have not aimed primarily at creating local and balanced self-reliant economies. It is manifestly unjust, therefore, to leave these territories unaided as soon as political control is withdrawn.

It would be better if the foundations of such self-reliant economies were constructed during a transitional stage; when this has not been done a moral obligation rests on the imperial Powers to continue to assist for a time after independence.

We have reason to hope that we are moving towards international assistance for under-developed territories. The best feature of President Eisenhower's proposals at the United Nations for the Middle East was his suggestion that an international fund should be established to be operated under Arab control. **This principle should be applied not only to the Middle East. There should be a World Fund under United Nations' auspices administered by the peoples themselves.**

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PEACE MAY DEPEND ON ANSWERS TO THESE PROBLEMS

By Professor C. A. Coulson, FRs

free port, an island some 15 miles across, living almost entirely by its trade. It is important above all to preserve it as a free port, in which there is confidence of reliable and non-political service.

At present both of these are failing. If Britain left Singapore, as Mr. Lim Yew Hock and his fellow delegates recently sent to the Colonial Office have de-

The writer, who contributes to our series "I write as a Christian," is Rouse Ball Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University, and the author of many articles on the relation between science and religion. A well-known broadcaster, writer and pacifist, he is Chairman of the Toldas group and the Vice-President Elect for 1959 of the Methodist Conference.

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As a Christian I see this meeting of East and West as a critical one in which really creative action might influence the whole relationship between China and the West. Yet none of the major groups trust one another. And the Christian community, though comprising some very influential members, is only a small numerical minority.

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The American State Department has just reiterated its opposition.

Why should any government be excluded from the United Nations because Washington does not like it?

The UN is not a political club. It is an international assembly of *de facto* governments. There is little doubt that two-thirds of the delegations would like to see China in. It is time that their subservience to America—and this relates particularly to the British delegation—ended. The insult to China is doubled by the acceptance of a delegate from Formosa and his presence on the Security Council as though his exiled administration were a Great Power.

But whilst the speeches proceed at New York, let us look at another development which is determining events over one-third of a Continent.

De Gaulle's offer

General de Gaulle has outlined his new Constitution for the overseas territories of France, and he is leaving for a grand tour of West Africa, Equatorial Africa, Madagascar and Algeria to urge its acceptance upon the peoples. The constitution offers two alternatives, integration or federation with France. Federation with France is limited by Paris control of defence, foreign policy, and, broadly, public security, finance and economic development. The price for the rejection of integration or federation is independence without economic aid.

These proposals are less liberal than de Gaulle's past utterances might have led one to anticipate. I don't think any French colony will accept integration if the vote is genuine. I don't think any French colony would voluntarily accept permanent federation on the basis proposed.

It may be, however, that French West and Equatorial Africa and Madagascar will accept it under duress, and the Algerian vote, collected under the supervision of the French army, may provide a fictitious majority.

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"IN yesterday's by-election the People's Action Party in Singapore gained a victory over the Labour Front." That recent piece of news won't cause more than a flicker of the eye to most people.

But it's only a few weeks since I was in Singapore, and for me it raises problems which I cannot answer, even though I know that on the correct answers there may depend the peace of the world.

For Singapore is one of the points of contact between East and West. It is still a colony, without the independence enjoyed by the Federation of Malay States immediately to its north. But its population is predominantly Chinese, looking to Peking rather than Kuala Lumpur for its spiritual guidance.

Going Communist

It is at present passing through a strong anti-colonial phase, with the British civil servants being swept away (and suitably recompensed for lack of office) long before a sufficiently mature native personnel exists to replace them. This is the significance of that victory in the by-election; for it shows that moderate policies appear to have no greater hope of success here in the Far East than they have had nearer home in the Middle East.

Perhaps we ought to be careful in our choice of words. I believe that Singapore is going Communist not because it really believes at all deeply about the theory of Communism, but because such a large part of its population comes from China. Whatever China does, Singapore will want to do also.

But this does not reduce our problem; it merely complicates it. In the past, Singapore has been a valuable part of Britain's lines of defence. But ever since the Japanese so easily overran it during the last war it is doubtful whether it can ever regain this particular rôle. It is a

free port, an island some 15 miles across, living almost entirely by its trade. It is important above all to preserve it as a free port, in which there is confidence of reliable and non-political service.

At present both of these are failing. If Britain left Singapore, as Mr. Lim Yew Hock and his fellow delegates recently sent to the Colonial Office have demanded, they would fail even more. British honesty is still worth something, and so is British administration. (Did not the Malay Federation first dismiss almost all its British civil servants, and then find itself forced to lure them back, with promises of big salaries and gratuities?)

Confidence falling

So what are we to do? We cannot urge Singapore to unite with Malaya, for in Malaya there is a majority of Malaysians; and the importance of China is much reduced. In fact, we can see the possibility of friction between the two, for Malaya is seriously contemplating the opening of Malacca as an international port, to reduce their need for the services of Singapore.

If we suggest that Singapore be federated in some way with China, we are opening a gateway for Communism to come across Asia to Ceylon and, perhaps, India. Yet we can only stay in Singapore with increasing difficulty. And confidence is daily falling away: less than one-third of a recent City loan has yet been taken up.

As a Christian I see this meeting of East and West as a critical one in which really creative action might influence the whole relationship between China and the West. Yet none of the major groups trust one another. And the Christian community, though comprising some very influential members, is only a small numerical minority.

Christian group can't lead

The best schools are still the Christian ones, relics of an earlier generation of missionary effort. Yet an out-dated anti-colonialism is rampant—even leading to the founding of a new university (Nan Yang) in which the education is entirely in Chinese.

Of one thing I am sure—the People's Action Party may have won this recent by-election. But they have no big enough spirit to do for this unhappy island what is needed. It would be comforting if we could feel that the Christian group could give some spiritual lead. But the largest among them are the Anglicans with their lovely Cathedral, and the American Methodists. Both are tied too closely to the execrated imperialism to be really acceptable.

It is no use handing the island over to the United Nations. Nor has it any future economically—being an island with no valuable natural resources—other than as a port.

I honestly don't know what I should do if I were the Colonial Secretary.

March tomorrow (Saturday) with the Aetherius Society

AGAINST THE H-BOMB

FOR FLYING SAUCER RECOGNITION

Open-air Meeting 11 a.m. Marble Arch

March from Marble Arch 1.30 p.m.

through West London, Trafalgar Square Rally 3.30 p.m.

THE AETHERIUS SOCIETY, 757 FULHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.6.

THE VALUES OF Mrs. BROWN

This article continues the discussion introduced in Peace News of August 8 by Reginald Reynolds, who considered the acceptance of the politics of universal suicide by the average person, "Mrs. Brown," and concluded that we need to know how Mrs. Brown could be made "vulnerable" to better ideas. To explore this new ground a map was needed.

Wilfred Wellock is an economist and sociologist who is well-known as the author of many publications on peace and social regeneration. A tireless writer and lecturer, he is on the Board of Directors of Peace News and was a Labour MP from 1927 to 1931.

REGINALD REYNOLD'S frank article in Peace News a fortnight ago was very refreshing. To a considerable extent I share his feeling of powerlessness and his sense of isolation and frustration.

And I, too, am troubled about Mrs. Brown's map, but much more about the antics of those who conduct, power and purposes determine its contours.

I also accept Reg's three categories of pacifists: the "Old Guard," the "Perfectionists," and the people in a hurry, although I disagree with the title given to the second group into which I imagine he would place me. I am definitely not a perfectionist, and I assume that Reg., as a Quaker, would not rule out the issue of values as a vital factor in the achievement of world peace.

Maximum consumption

IN regard to the first group, my lament is its unrealism. It takes no account of the underlying forces that are now largely determining our destiny. It believes that every international dispute can be settled around a table, whereas it can't.

America's interference in the Lebanon arises out of her way of life, her enormous and growing consumption of oil, and her incalculable economic needs during the next twenty years and, of course, the growing competition of the two dinosaurs

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a 32 pp. booklet on practical pacifism which already enjoys a world reputation, by

for the control of the earth's resources and the ideology that is to prevail among the world's 5,000,000,000 population in 1998.

The issues involved in that situation cannot be settled around a common table, but by the people of each country around their own tables, even the family tables.

The fatal weakness of the third group is basically that of the first. It imagines that opponents can be coaxed into overlooking their basic concern, while forgetting that its own concern is equally blameworthy.

Both the USA and the USSR believe that the way of life of the other is detestable, and that whatever they do which checks the advancement of the other or furthers its own is justified and must be defended at all costs. That mentality was clearly demonstrated in the conduct of both these countries in the recent happenings in the Middle East.

Yet, strange to say, Russia has recently modified her way of life by accepting the American aim of maximum consumption of goods and services.

She first set out to equal and surpass America's military power, and having, as she believes, done that, she is now bent on equalling and surpassing the consumption levels of the American people. This, of course, is the latest example of the Marxian materialism which, by the way, was derived from a study of capitalism.

In both countries the once despised and denounced vices and values of capitalism



By Wilfred Wellock

are being democratised. What is even worse, the mania of maximum consumption of goods and services is to be the bait by which Russia is to win the world to Communism, and the US to the American way of life.

Dinosaurs' competition

WHAT I want to know is how the Old Guard and the "make haste" pacifists propose to deal with that issue.

It is clear that the new race in consumption levels will intensify beyond all knowledge the competition for markets and natural resources which have already dragged mankind through two world wars.

We are now heading for an era in which the dinosaurs will hotly pursue two objectives: the extension, first, of their flock of dependent nations, and second, their monopolies of the earth's resources for their own and their dependents' use.

We now see that the Summit talks of the last two months have been nothing more than an international farce, and also that

the anti-nuclear propaganda of the same period has been coolly ignored by responsible politicians in every Western and every Communist country.

New culture

WE are thus left with the cold fact that the two dinosaurs fear and hate each other more than they fear and hate war, and that both will risk war in order to check any tendency towards world domination.

Meanwhile the money-getting-and-spending fever is spreading in every Western country, and its extension to future earnings by way of hire purchase trading is now being encouraged in Britain by huge sums which her banks are allocating to this morale-undermining policy.

I see only one hope of checking this cancerous growth of materialism, and that is in a widespread recognition of the necessity of a new culture, of accepting and teaching in school, college and university many lost vital spiritual, creative and social values.

This is one of the aims of the second group of pacifists as I see it. It has nothing to do with perfectionism or goody-goodyism. It simply recognises the extent to which materialistic values have triumphed over social and creative values in recent years, and that this new way of life is developing devouring propensities which threaten the peace and wellbeing of the whole world.

There is nothing irrational in appealing to the saner elements in our civilisation, the quiet, thoughtful people who are still capable of seeing beneath the surface of events the vital issues upon which a virile and enduring civilisation must rest. Were these to make their influence felt, big changes in our national outlook and way of life could be quickly made.

The problem is whether manufacturers, advertisers, financiers, bankers and vote-catching politicians, or the educators of youth, and all the people who sit back and take thought, shall draw Mrs. Brown's map.

CHINA: IMPRESSIONS OF CHANGE

This is the conclusion of "China Re- that changed. They became healthy, skilled that way the shopkeeper called him in and

her incalculable economic needs during the next twenty years and, of course, the growing competition of the two dinosaurs

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CHINA: IMPRESSIONS OF CHANGE

This is the conclusion of "China Revisited" which appeared in Peace News last week. The writer, who was for many years travelling secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, spent most of April last year in China as the guest of Christian leaders there. In these articles she recalls her impressions and experiences. In the previous article she considered the position under the new régime of some of the Christians she met. The economic and social changes are her theme in this article.

CONSIDER what has become of the Vice Area which took up so much space in the French Concession of Shanghai.

As part of a research job which I undertook in 1935 to probe the poisonous drug traffic carried on by the Japanese militarists in China, I had to visit a number of opium and heroin joints. These operated also as brothels.

It was a vile story I had to report to the League of Nations people that summer, but one of the first things the Communist government did in China was to tear down that whole area of Shanghai and set up in place of the brothels children's playgrounds, theatres for folk drama, and schools.

AN OLD TRADE REMOVED

The prostitutes in batches of five hundred at a time were taken to Institutions to learn good citizenship. There Y.W.C.A. secretaries were invited to work with the communists in this blessed job. Many of the prostitutes had no idea that venereal disease was curable and the brothel keepers had always prevented them from keeping in touch with their village homes. Now all

that changed. They became healthy, skilled in handicrafts, full of self respect; nearly all of them married and all were enabled to earn their own living.

Of course, after spending so much time and money in getting rid of the age-old trade, strong measures are taken to remove temptations to relapse. Advertisements, papers, radio programmes, cinemas, schools and colleges uphold the equal standard as between men and women in all relationships.

The people like the new law against tipping. An Indian friend of mine was making the long railway journey from Canton

By Muriel Lester

to Peking with her baby. The child fell ill and needed more attention than one person could give. The train conductor took one the nursing job as a matter of course and was tireless in his care. The mother knew that in China a tip would be considered an insult but she longed to give the conductor something as a memorial of her gratitude. She explained all this to him towards the end of the second day of the journey, but he was adamant in his refusal. At length she forced the money on him, but almost as soon as the train drew in to Peking station, the Guard approached her and handed back her notes saying, "All our men are satisfactorily paid. Our conductor enjoyed doing his duty in making his passengers comfortable."

People never bother to hold tight to their handbag or lock up jewellery in China. A British friend of mine dropped a few notes in the muddy street as he came out of a book shop one day. Next time he passed

quiet, thoughtful people who are still capable of seeing beneath the surface of events the vital issues upon which a virile and enduring civilisation must rest. Were these to make their influence felt, big changes in our national outlook and way of life could be quickly made.

The problem is whether manufacturers, advertisers, financiers, bankers and vote-catching politicians, or the educators of youth, and all the people who sit back and take thought, shall draw Mrs. Brown's map.

GOVERNMENT ALWAYS RIGHT

Not very many years ago I used to see boys and girls of ten working twelve and sometimes sixteen hour shifts in Shanghai factories. Now all children are considered precious. In school they are taught the basic Duty of Love and the Non-Existence of God.

What we call freedom doesn't exist in China. They are not free to accept a tip, nor to seduce, nor to advertise incitements to vice. The integral rightness of all government decisions must be accepted and declared. Set phrases constantly recur. One of them starts with the words "Since liberation" or "Before liberation."

"Before liberation," I was told, "Christianity only meant such things as not drinking and not smoking."

I remarked once that Britain, America and Russia were all committing a crime against humanity and a sin against God by polluting the air with Stontium 90. Immediately they corrected me saying, "Not Russia. She only does it in self-defence. She is good. She helps us." There was no answer to my enquiry as to whether that was their present standard of values.

How patient they were with me, these dear and honoured old friends! And how I long to be among them again! Above all I noticed the prevailing serenity among them all, their joy and a confidence which seemed to be based on something very deep and eternal.

DIARY

As this is a free service we reserve the right to select for publication notices sent in. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

1. Send notices to arrive not later than Mon. a.m.
2. Include: Date, TOWN, Time, Place (hall, street); nature of event; speakers, organisers (and secretary's address).

Friday, August 22
LONDON, S.W.6: 10.30 a.m. and 1.15 p.m.
Fulham Town Hall (opp. Fulham Broadway Underground Station), London Local Tribunal for COs Public admitted.

Monday, August 25
LONDON, S.W.1: 10.30 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Ebury Bridge House, Ebury Bridge Road, London Appellate Tribunal for COs Public admitted.

Tuesday, August 26
BIRMINGHAM: 7.45 p.m. 65 Kineton Green Road, Olton. Group meeting to arrange winter programme. PPU.

Wednesday, August 27
LONDON, N.W.1: 6.30 p.m. Friends House, Euston Road, Pacifist Forum; SJPC.

Friday, August 29
UPMINSTER: 8 p.m. Clock House, St. Mary's Lane, "A Way to Peace in the Middle East," Martin Dakin. Hornchurch 'Way to Peace' Group.

Sunday, August 31
MOEPHAM GREEN: Pilgrimage to Hertha's Chapel. Open Air Service, Rev. G. E. Nealy. For seats in coach write Gladys Gellest, 42 Minet Ave., N.W.10. PPU Religion Commission.

Wednesday, Sept. 3
ST. LEONARDS ON SEA: 6.45 p.m. 78a Norman Road. AGM and monthly meeting. John Reid, "The Pestalozzi Village in Our Midst." PPU.

Monday, September 8
BIRMINGHAM: 8 p.m. 221 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath. Meeting of Kings Heath and Cotteridge PPU. All Welcome.

Saturday, Sept. 13
FAVERSHAM, Kent: 3.30 p.m. Baptist School Room, St. Mary's Road. South-East Area meeting. Bring and Buy Stall; tea provided, please bring sandwiches, etc. to pool. Speaker: Minnie Pallister, PPU.

Every week!

SUNDAYS

LONDON: 3 p.m.; Hyde Park, Speakers' Corner. Pacifist Forum.

LONDON: 3 p.m.; Clapham Common. Christian Pacifist Open-air Meeting. The Brotherhood of the Way.

GLASGOW: 8 p.m.; Queens Pk. Gate, top of Victoria Rd. Open-air Meeting.

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

LONDON: Weekend Workcamps, cleaning and redecorating the homes of old-age pensioners. IVS, 72 Oakley Sq., London, N.W.1.

TUESDAYS

MANCHESTER: 1.2 p.m.; Deansgate Blitz Site. Christian pacifist open-air meeting. Local Methodist ministers and others. MPF.

WEDNESDAYS

LONDON: 7 p.m. Peace News Office, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4. Pacifist Youth Action Group.

THURSDAYS

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Rd. E.10 and E.11 Group. PPU.

LONDON, W.C.1: 1.20-1.40 p.m.; Church of St. George the Martyr, Queen Sq., Southampton Row. Weekly lunch-hour Service of Intercession for World Peace. Conducted by Clergy and laymen of different denominations.

FRIDAYS

BIRMINGHAM: 5 p.m. onwards; Bull St. Meeting House (outside) Peace News selling.

THE SCRIPTURES AND THE SOLDIER-GOD

The Rev. Lewis MacLachlan MA reviews

Mithras: The Fellow in the Cap. By Esmé Wynne-Tyson. Rider, 15s.

MRS. WYNNE-TYSON is an established novelist and journalist, and any book written by her commands attention and may be expected to exhibit the work of a sincere and independent mind.

In this latest book she has boldly invaded territory with which she is not very familiar, but in which none the less she moves with the confidence of conviction. Mrs. Wynne-Tyson is a controversialist and invites disagreement as she challenges accepted opinions. Not all her readers (it is to be hoped) will agree with her. If they did probably no one would be more disappointed than the author.

The thesis of this highly original book is that essential Christianity, which can still be excavated from the New Testament scriptures, has been overlaid and largely lost by the deposit of pagan civilisation. But of all the contemporary cults which have contaminated pure Christianity, and grossly disfigured the likeness of Christ, the most damaging is that of the war-like Mithras. It is to Mithras, the soldier-god, that an apostate Church has bowed the knee betraying its own Master to win the approval of the masses.



This "betrayal of Christ by the Church" which culminated in the "conversion" of Constantine is traced back to the first century, and Mrs. Wynne-Tyson finds evidence of it in the New Testament itself.

It must be said frankly that much of the argument of the book is unconvincing in detail. What the author admits to be "the comparatively slight knowledge we have of Mithraism and its liturgy" offers only very conjectural support to her contention that familiar passages both in the gospels and the epistles have been influenced by Mithraic belief. Why go out of our way to find an obscure allusion to Mithras where there is a very plain allusion to the Hebrew scriptures? To see a reference to Mithraic initiation rites in 2 Tim. iv. 7, 8, or to the Sun-god in 2 Corinthians iv. 6, will seem to many readers a little far-fetched, and as

'Your hand and mine'

Men Who Fought For Freedom, by Egon Larsen. Phoenix, 15s.

EGON LARSEN begins his book by warning his young readers: "The ideas about freedom and the motives of its champions are so varied that the terms 'right' and 'wrong' have little meaning. . . ."

E. G. "... with an almost automatic movement he (Simon Bolivar) pulled out his short sword . . . and strode up to the monk. 'Take this, you blaspheming hypocrite!' he cried, and struck the monk down with the flat of his sword." "... from the point of view of the fighter—and it is from his point of view that I have told each story—his own cause is, of course, the right one." And then follows Heine's limp remark: "... both are right in world history, the hammer and the anvil." Depends what you mean by right. Heine, apparently, means inevitable.

Freedom, too. What do we mean by it? In a compendium of this kind, especially one for young people, uniformity of worthiness can only be achieved by a dab of whitewash here and there. But Egon Larsen is too good a writer to ignore Original Sin altogether, and the concept of freedom gets clouded from subject to subject.

"Two million Frenchmen have died for the vanity of one man," cries Lafayette, exasperated by Napoleon. "It is enough! Enough!" But Lafayette has already despatched a large number of souls on his own account. Depends what you mean by vanity.

PEACE NEWS—August 22, 1958—7

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The rise of the Nation States

GEOFFREY CARNALL reviews

War and Society in the Seventeenth Century.

By Sir George Clark. Cambridge University Press, 18s. 6d.

SIR GEORGE CLARK'S main theme is the relationship between the development of war in the seventeenth century and the consolidation of national sovereignty; the connection between military power and other kinds of power.

Early in the century, loyalties were to ideas or to men. Later on, the conflicting forces at work in Europe were polarised about the Nation States.

The change towards greater military discipline was an improvement so far as the community as a whole was concerned. It made possible some degree of restraint in the conduct of war. There were advocates of total war then as now, however. Sir George Clark records a Venetian attempt to infect the Turkish army with "quintessence of the pest."

He remarks that this essay in biological warfare was justified by the argument that "the usual considerations do not apply to the Turks, who are enemies by religion, treacherous by nature, and who have betrayed your excellencies."

In conclusion, it seems worth quoting a fine piece of prophetic common sense from the pen of the classical scholar Richard Bentley (1662-1742): "And if Mankind had had Wings," he wrote, "(as perhaps some extravagant Atheist may think us deficient in that) all the World must have consented to clip them; or else Humane Race had been extinct before this time, nothing upon that supposition being safe from Murder and Rapine."

It must be said frankly that much of the argument of the book is unconvincing in detail. What the author admits to be "the comparatively slight knowledge we have of Mithraism and its liturgy" offers only very conjectural support to her contention that familiar passages both in the gospels and the epistles have been influenced by Mithraic belief. Why go out of our way to find an obscure allusion to Mithras where there is a very plain allusion to the Hebrew scriptures? To see a reference to Mithraic initiation rites in 2 Tim. iv. 7, 8, or to the Sun-god in 2 Corinthians iv. 6, will seem to many readers a little far-fetched, and as for Ephesians vi. 10-17 (whether or not it was written by St. Paul as Mrs. Wynne-Tyson believes) that is surely a very emphatic way of saying that "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal."



It is Paul who is regarded as the chief culprit in misinterpreting the Gospel, though to complete her case against him the author has to disparage the quality of 1 Corinthians xiii. and ignore several other passages of exhortation to forgiveness as in Col. iii or Roman xii. and xiii. and "pacifist" presentations of the Cross as in the second half of 1 Cor. 1.

To find evidence of Paul's vindictive nature in 1 Cor. v. 5 (where he says that he will deliver a notorious evil-doer to Satan, clearly meaning that he does not demand his punishment because his sin is in itself punishment enough) ignores the passage in 2 Cor. 2 where presumably the allusion is to the same offender.



While appreciating the value of bringing a fresh mind to bear on old problems one cannot but regret that Mrs. Wynne-Tyson has so completely ignored modern New Testament scholarship. But if, partly for this reason, much of her argument loses persuasive power, readers of Peace News will welcome the testimony of this book to the essentially pacifist character of the Christian Gospel.

No one will deny that there was in the first century, as there is in the twentieth, a danger of pure Christianity becoming submerged in worldly wisdom, and there is constant need to recover and restate the original message of Christ. In so far as she has succeeded in doing this many both within and without the Churches will be grateful to an outspoken author.

In a compendium of this kind, especially one for young people, uniformity of worthiness can only be achieved by a dab of whitewash here and there. But Egon Larsen is too good a writer to ignore Original Sin altogether, and the concept of freedom gets clouded from subject to subject.

"Two million Frenchmen have died for the vanity of one man," cries Lafayette, exasperated by Napoleon. "It is enough! Enough!" But Lafayette has already despatched a large number of souls on his own account. Depends what you mean by vanity.

Egon Larsen bravely faces the fact that the heroes of one situation sometimes prove to be the villains of another, and it is a compliment to him that he carries off a difficult book so well.

It is surely more than coincidence that those subjects who need, and receive, no whitewash are those who saw the challenge that compelled young Penn "to fight without a weapon": Penn himself, the Six Men of Dorset, and Gandhi.

And much credit should go to a book for young people which ends by quoting from a London newspaper: "The hand that killed the Mahatma is the same hand that nailed the Cross. It is the hand that fired the faggots; it is the hand that through the ages has been growing ever more mighty in war and less sure in the pursuit of peace. It is your hand and mine."—J. S.

Quote

EVERYBODY must realise that recent events might well have led to world war. Why can these appalling situations develop? A chief reason is that the majority of people, in democracy and dictatorship alike, still believe in unquestioning obedience and having their enemies chosen for them by authority. Men are despatched under sealed orders to point or fire guns at folk they have never seen before and against whom they have no personal grievance—often not knowing what all the bother is about. Behind them with the same sectional morality are those who make weapons—including hydrogen bombs—to terrify or kill unknown people in unknown places for unknown causes. Altogether these local and limited loyalties of a divided humanity form a funny spectacle but at the same time they constitute a superlative tragedy.—*The Rev. Francis Noble, M.A., in his Parish Magazine: St. Paul's, Crofton, Kent.*

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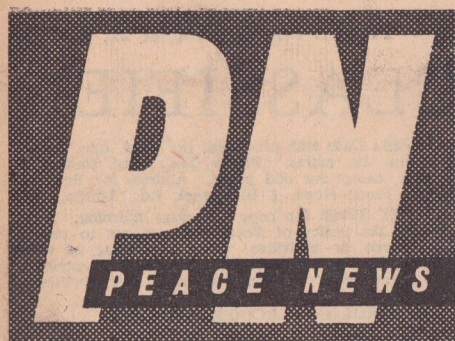
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Palestine tragedy: UN urged to act

Peace News Reporter

THE problem of the Arab refugees and of the Arab minority in Israel has been forcibly put to the United Nations by a prominent group of Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel.

In a plea to the special session of the General Assembly on the Middle East last week, the group urged the UN "to put an end to the Palestine tragedy" by executing "repeated resolutions on the repatriation of the Arab refugees" and by stopping "the shameful oppression of the Arabs in Israel."

The appeal was made by the Central Committee of the "Third Force" movement in Israel, a group of Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel committed to seeking just and peaceful solutions to the problems of Palestine.

DECAYING IN CAMPS

The Palestine Arab refugees, the Committee stated, "are war refugees, and what they are in need of, and entitled to, is not charity, but the restitution of their right to repatriation, a right which has been denied to them in violation of law and justice."

"Not only the refugees, but also those of the Palestine Arabs who remained to live in Israel, lead a painful existence.

"Arab villages and towns in Israel are under military rule, and the Arab inhabi-

Work on nuclear weapons refused

Support in Japan and Germany

PEACE NEWS REPORTER

TRADE UNIONS in Japan and Germany are supporting and encouraging union members who refuse to work on projects connected with nuclear armaments.

Dockers and trade unionists at Yokohama, Japan, refused last Sunday to unload five Swiss guided missiles, wanted for research, from a Japanese ship after the dockyard had been picketed by members of anti-nuclear weapons organisations.

Five small vessels, chartered by other trade unionists to sail around and try to prevent the Arima Maru, the ship carrying the missiles, from entering Yokohama port, were chased away by Japanese Maritime Safety Board cutters.

Following a demonstration by 200 workers, dockers began unloading the ship's other cargo.

The owners of the Arima Maru have stated that they are negotiating with the workers.

In Germany a few months ago a conference of salaried staff in the Metal Workers Union passed the following resolution:

"That the executive committee of the Metal Workers Union be asked to give support and legal protection to all members of

the Metal Workers Union in the Federal Republic who on grounds of conscience refuse to participate in any work in connection with the development and manufacture of nuclear weapons or with installations designed for the storing and use of nuclear weapons within the Federal Republic.

HELP COS

"Further to recommend that members of call-up age who claim the right of conscientious objection in connection with military service and training with nuclear weapons be similarly supported and protected."

The executive committee of the Building and Quarry Workers Union decided unanimously to give full support to any of their members who refused work on rocket launching sites and other buildings connected with nuclear weapons.

Aldermaston: workers risk jobs to sign petition

TEN workers at the atomic weapons establishment at Aldermaston have jeopardised their jobs by signing a petition to be sent to the British Government urging that the plant be used only for peaceful work.

Many other workers have stated that they do not believe in the H-bomb, and that it is right that the plant should be picketed by those who challenge the Government's atomic weapons programme.

These are some of the facts stated in a Press release issued last Sunday by the Direct Action Committee Against Nuclear War, which is organising the nine-week picket and demonstrations at the Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Research Establishment in south Berkshire.

Radiation illness

An applicant for a job at the weapons

plant, says the Direct Action Committee, and many conversations held with workers near the gates.

One technician claimed that he, and others he knew of, had suffered bouts of illness as a result of radiation while working at the plant.

A similar report was given by a woman who used to be Personal Assistant to the Chief Atomic Engineer until two or three years ago, when she decided that she could not go on working in a nuclear weapons factory.

Questionnaire

The Committee's volunteer pickets have displayed a notice-board covered with newspaper cuttings about the recent UN report on radio-active fall-out. It also carries advertisements for local jobs which the workers might consider if deciding to quit

and that of their wives, about the manufacture and use of nuclear weapons.

So far between 80 and 90 people have taken part in the picket at Aldermaston. The project continues until September 22.

March on Sunday

THE Cambridgeshire Labour Party demonstration against the establishment of a rocket base at RAF Mepal, just outside Ely, will take place on Sunday. It begins at 2.0 p.m. in Barton Square, Ely.

Some London Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament groups are supporting the demonstration. The secretary hopes that as many people from London as possible will come on Sunday.

Missile base • FROM

and peaceful solutions to the problems of Palestine.

DECAYING IN CAMPS

The Palestine Arab refugees, the Committee stated, "are war refugees, and what they are in need of, and entitled to, is not charity, but the restitution of their right to repatriation, a right which has been denied to them in violation of law and justice."

"Not only the refugees, but also those of the Palestine Arabs who remained to live in Israel, lead a painful existence.

"Arab villages and towns in Israel are under military rule, and the Arab inhabitants are not allowed to leave their settlements without a written permit from the Military Governor, even in order to go and look for work or medical help. . . . The greater part of the lands of the Israeli Arabs has been confiscated by the Government."

"For 10 years the great majority of the Palestine Arabs has been decaying in refugee camps, and those Arabs who remained in Israel have been enclosed in ghettos, robbed and deprived of elementary human rights."

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Radiation illness

An applicant for a job at the weapons plant, who had been told that there would be an opening for him as a pattern maker, was dissuaded by his wife from accepting the post after she had read one of the picketer's leaflets, the Committee reports. Another worker from nearby Newbury arranged for two of the picketers to speak in his town at a discussion group at which the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment was represented.

Many pamphlets and books have been sold to workers and other passers-by from the literature stall at the main gates of the

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A series of meetings in local villages started last week with film shows about atomic weapons. At the first of these, in the village of Upper Bucklebury, members of the audience resolved to establish a local committee of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

A London University sociologist has helped to draw up a questionnaire which is being taken round the workers' estate in order to try to assess the workers' attitude,

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Missile base ● FROM PAGE ONE

"Where were you people six months ago?" was a comment frequently made with great bitterness to pickets.

For this reason the group point out that a solid and well organised educational campaign should be launched at once in towns close to intended missile bases—Denver, Omaha, Spokane, Maine and other announced sites.

Meanwhile the US Defence Department is reported to be seeking 20 additional inter-continental ballistic missile base sites.

AS I sit in the sunshine on the Borth sands, looking at the sea with its small, rippling waves, and the children engaged in the ever fascinating pursuit of digging sand castles, it is hard to imagine the extraordinary and incredible conquest of the secrets of space that is involved in the lightning flashing flight of a rocket from the earth to the moon.

The scientific achievements of man, and his discoveries and inventions, have made it possible for men today to fly as birds do through the sky at speeds undreamed of when Leonardo da Vinci attempted to rise from the earth's surface in a flying machine.

In the last 50 years the fetish of speed has gripped the human race; to save time by flying rather than travelling in an express train, high-powered liner, or car is spoken of as though time was the scarcest of all commodities.

In a world preparing to use these almost superhuman inventions for the purpose of probably blowing the earth and all its life to pieces, time is certainly precious, and yet the mad race between nations to compete for superiority, not in intellectual prowess or pleasurable pursuits, but in

By Sybil Morrison 'Reaching for the moon'

When the button is pressed at Cape Canaveral, Florida, the 62ft. Thor rocket will start the probe on its journey to the moon. It will burn out in 130 seconds and two further stages will take over in succession, reaching a final speed of about 24,000 miles per hour. . . . A radio signal will fire the final small rocket in an attempt to direct the probe into a path round the moon.—The Observer, August 17, 1958.

death-dealing instruments of the most appalling and monstrous kind, dominates the mind of man.

When Russia launched its Sputnik the instant reaction was not amazed wonder at the near-miracle of the achievement, but horrified fear that Russia was ahead in the possibilities of inter-continental ballistic weapons.

When a ship can sail not only under the water for longer than a month at a time, but also under ice 50 to 100 ft. thick, the only reason for excitement appears to be that this is the answer to Russia's superiority in space.

And now "reaching for the moon" is no longer a term to describe an impossible aspiration, but is a reality. Mankind may

be able to reach to the moon through the means of shooting a contrivance at 24,000 miles per hour across the great spaces of the universe, traversing 252,710 miles in its passage.

The moon which has been sung and serenaded, which has intrigued children ever since "the cow jumped over" it; which has been blamed for madness and praised for enchantment may eventually be photographed from the other side. Some day, no doubt, men will set foot upon its strange, cratered, waterless surface.

Unquestionably the wonders of scientific inventions, the discoveries and alleviations of medicine and surgery, the devices and processes for bringing comfort and ease of living, should make of this world a haven of civilisation and culture. If the intelli-

gence and conscience of politicians in any way matched these achievements, this vision of a rich, happy, and peaceful world might become real.

But while statesmen manoeuvre to create chaos in order to offer solutions which they know their opponents will not accept; while they issue provoking statements and write letters designed to aggravate; while they menace each other with monstrous weapons evolved from discoveries which could have been beneficial, there is little hope to be found in contemplation of the marvels of science.

It is difficult to make a judgment of why this should have happened, but there is every evidence that it arises from the fact that war has become a habit, and even when it threatens to annihilate the human race, there is no one of sufficient intelligence, and pure enough vision, to see the plain commonsense of abandoning the habit.

Nevertheless, if man can reach the moon, he can also some day arrive at the only cure for a bad habit: its total renunciation. Without doubt that day must come.

Sybil Morrison will be on holiday for the next two weeks.

Published by Peace News Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4, and Printed in Great Britain by Fish & Cook Ltd., 135 Fonthill Road, N.4.